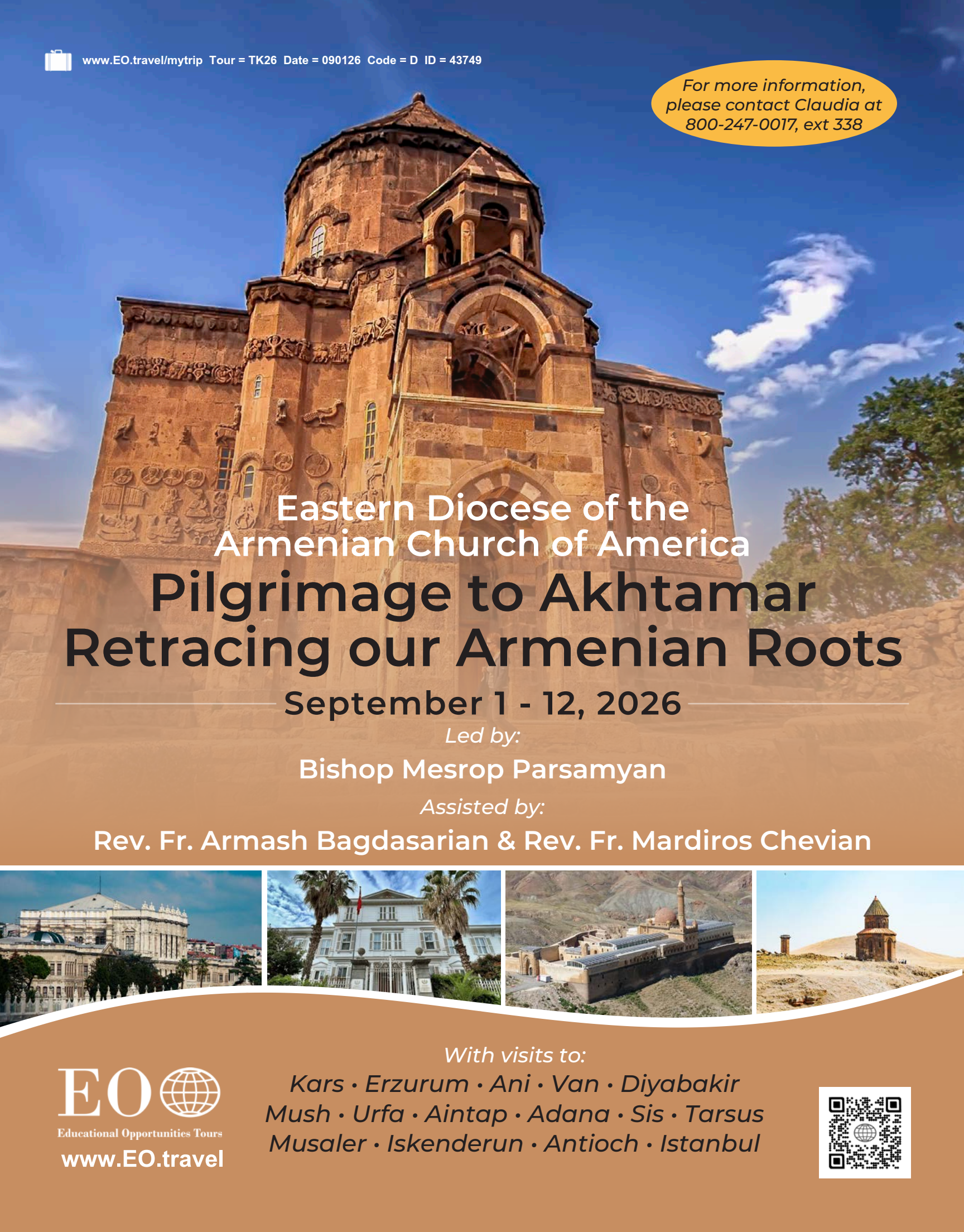




For more information,
please contact Claudia at
800-247-0017, ext 338



Eastern Diocese of the
Armenian Church of America
Pilgrimage to Akhtamar
Retracing our Armenian Roots

September 1 - 12, 2026

Led by:

Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan

Assisted by:

Rev. Fr. Armash Bagdasarian & Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian



With visits to:

*Kars • Erzurum • Ani • Van • Diyarbakir
Mush • Urfa • Aintap • Adana • Sis • Tarsus
Musaler • Iskenderun • Antioch • Istanbul*



Itinerary



September 1 – Departure from the United States

Depart on your international flight to Türkiye, beginning a deeply meaningful journey tracing the rich history, faith, and cultural legacy of the Armenian people across historic Western Armenia.

September 2 – Arrival in Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul, a city that has served as a crossroads of civilizations for centuries and was once home to a vibrant Armenian community. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening, gather for a welcome dinner and an introduction to the journey ahead. Overnight in Istanbul. (D)



September 3 – Istanbul / Erzurum / Kars

This morning, fly to Erzurum, historically known as Karin, an important center of Armenian life and learning. Explore the city, including the impressive Çifte Minare Medrese and Yakutiye Seminary, reflecting the region's layered history. Continue to Kars, a city that preserves traces of Armenian, Russian, and Ottoman influence. Dinner and overnight in Kars. (B, D)

September 4 – Kars / Ani / Doğubayazıt

Begin your day exploring Kars, including the Church of the Holy Apostles, a striking example of medieval Armenian architecture, and Kars Fortress. Continue to Ani, the magnificent ruined capital of medieval Armenia, once known as the “City of 1,001 Churches.” Walk among its hauntingly beautiful remains, including cathedrals, churches, and city walls that speak to a once-thriving civilization. Travel onward along the slopes of Mount Ararat—an enduring national symbol for Armenians—before arriving in Doğubayazıt. Dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)



September 5 – Doğubayazıt / Van

Visit the dramatic Ishak Pasha Palace, beautifully set against the mountains, as well as the historic Bayazet Fortress. Continue along the Araks River, a historic boundary of Armenian lands, stopping at the scenic Berkri Waterfall. Pass through the rugged landscapes shaped by ancient volcanic activity near Tendürek Mountain. Arrive in Van, one of the most significant centers of ancient Armenian civilization. Dinner and overnight in Van. (B, L, D)

September 6 – Lake Van and Akhtamar Island

Explore the region of Lake Van, often considered the heart of historic Armenia. Visit the ancient Urartian fortress of Tushpa, overlooking the lake. Travel by boat to Akhtamar Island, home to the 10th-century Cathedral of the Holy Cross (Surb Khach), renowned for its intricate stone carvings depicting biblical scenes. If available, attend the Divine Liturgy (Badarak), a powerful spiritual experience in this historic setting. Dinner and overnight in Van. (B, L, D)



September 7 – Van / Mush / Diyarbakir

Depart for Diyarbakir, stopping in Mush, a region deeply tied to Armenian history and memory. Visit the Surb Karapet Monastery (Msho Sultan), once one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Armenia. Continue along the Eastern Euphrates, crossing historic routes once traveled by ancient civilizations. Arrive in Diyarbakir (ancient Amida), where you will visit St. Kyriakos Church, one of the largest Armenian churches in the Middle East, now restored as a symbol of cultural resilience. Dinner and overnight in Diyarbakir. (B, L, D)

September 8 – Diyarbakir / Urfa / Gaziantep

Journey through Upper Mesopotamia to Urfa (Edessa), a city rich in biblical and early Christian history. Visit the Pool of Sacred Fish and Abraham's Cave, both tied to longstanding religious traditions, as well as the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul. Continue to Gaziantep, historically known as Aintab, which once had a significant Armenian population. Dinner and overnight in Gaziantep. (B, L, D)

September 9 – Gaziantep / Adana / Tarsus

Travel into the historic region of Cilicia, a major center of Armenian life during the medieval Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. Visit Kozan (Sis), the kingdom's former capital and seat of the Armenian Catholicosate. Explore the impressive ruins of Caesarea ad Anabarsum. Continue to Adana to see Hadrian's Bridge and the old bazaar. In nearby Tarsus, visit the Church and Well of St. Paul and Cleopatra's Gate. Dinner and overnight in Adana. (B, L, D)

September 10 – Adana / Antakya

Travel along the Mediterranean coast, passing through Iskenderun and the region of Musa Dagh, forever remembered for the heroic Armenian resistance during World War I. Continue to Antakya (ancient Antioch), one of the earliest centers of Christianity. Visit the Archaeological Museum and the Grotto of St. Peter, one of the world's oldest Christian worship sites. Stop in the Armenian village of Vakifli, the last remaining Armenian village in Türkiye, and visit its church, a living testament to enduring heritage. Dinner and overnight in Antakya. (B, L, D)

September 11 – Antakya / Istanbul

Transfer early this morning to Hatay Airport for your flight to Istanbul. This afternoon, enjoy a panoramic tour along the ancient walls of Constantinople and visit the Armenian Patriarchate, the spiritual center of the Armenian community in Istanbul. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B, D)

September 12 – Return to the USA or Enjoy the Istanbul Extension

Those not taking the extension will transfer to the airport for return flights.

B = Breakfast / L = Lunch / D = Dinner

STARTING AT
\$4,298*
from New York

YOUR ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE INCLUDES:

Basic Tour & Guided Sightseeing
Round-trip International Airfare

Additional baggage & optional fees may apply; see fine print for details

Fuel Surcharges and Government Taxes

Subject to change

Admin. Fees, Entrance Fees, Hotel Gratuities & Program Fees

Meals as Listed in the Itinerary, Deluxe Motorcoaches

First-Class Hotels & much more!

*A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.

**To fly from a city near you, call: 1-800-247-0017, X590
or register online at www.eo.travel**

Optional Extension



ISTANBUL

September 12 - 14, 2026
Starting at \$798*

September 12 – Istanbul

Begin your exploration of Istanbul's historic treasures, including Hagia Sophia, Hippodrome Square, the Blue Mosque, the Basilica Cistern, and the Grand Bazaar. Throughout the city, reflect on the deep and lasting contributions of Armenian artisans, architects, and communities to its cultural fabric. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B, D)

September 13 – Istanbul

Continue your exploration with visits to the Golden Horn, including the Kariye (Chora) Museum, the Greek Patriarchate, and St. George's Basilica. Visit the Bulgarian St. Stephen Church before touring Topkapi Palace, the Egyptian Bazaar, and enjoying a scenic Bosphorus Cruise. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B, D)

September 14 – Return to the United States

Transfer to the airport for your return flight, carrying with you a deeper understanding of Armenian history, faith, and enduring cultural legacy.

Guests taking an extension may be on a different flight than their group and/or traveling companion.

**A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.*



PROGRAM CONDITIONS

INCLUDED IN PRICE:

• Round-trip international airfare • Deluxe motorcoaches • 1st class hotels • Guided sightseeing • Entrance fees to sites visited (as listed in itinerary) • Meals as listed in the itinerary • Hotel gratuities • Program fees • Administrative Fee • Fuel surcharges • Government Taxes \$98 (Increases in government tax and fees are subject to change)

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

• Optional Travel Protection Program (see premium schedule) • Extensions and optional sightseeing as listed in the brochure • Miscellaneous fees such as individual transfers; passports, laundry, beverages at meals & baggage fees • Voluntary "Love Offering" for guide and driver • \$100 Document fee for Non-US/Canadian residents • Visa for non-US citizens • Required Vaccinations • Required medical testing before, during, and/or after travel.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is per person based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. While EOT will try to match roommates, EOT cannot guarantee a roommate will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 30 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or you request a single room, the following charges apply: \$698 during the basic tour; \$298 for Istanbul Extension.

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Payment	Amount	Due Date
Initial Deposit	\$300	Due upon registration. Includes a minimum \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee. See CANCELLATION FEES for details.
Second Deposit	\$1,500	05/29/26
Full Deposit	\$1,800	Payment received between 05/30/26 - 07/02/26 must pay the full deposit amount and may be subject to late registration fees.
Final Payment	07/03/26.	If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.
Travel Protection Amount		The Travel Protection Plan premium will be due no later than 05/29/26 to be in full effect. Travel protection premiums must be paid in addition to our deposits and in advance of the final payment for coverage to be in effect.

REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED after May 29, 2026:

We welcome registrations after 05/29/26. Registrations received between 05/30/26 - 06/03/26 will incur a fee starting at \$100 per person. Registrations received between 06/04/26 - 06/18/26 will incur a fee starting at \$200 per person. Registrations received between 06/19/26 - 07/03/26 will incur a fee starting at \$400 per person. Registrations received on 07/04/26 or later will incur an additional fee based on air availability. Additional fees will be advised upon registration.

CANCELLATION FEES:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program, provided the premium has been paid and the reason for cancellation is coverable. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following per-person cancellation penalties: From the day of registration to 105 days prior to departure, you will be charged the \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline and land fees. Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties, land penalties, and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following per-person charges: 104-60 days = \$400; 59-45 days = \$600; 44-31 days = 40% of total cost; 30 days to the day of departure = 100% of the total cost. Submit cancellation in writing. On or after the day of departure, there will be no refund for any services not used.

STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

EOT does not accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air schedules, hotel overbookings, other hotel related problems or causes, and/or travel supplier cancellations or postponements. Travel suppliers include all tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, bus companies, entertainment venues, and any other travel supplier used to operate the tour. All such losses or expenses will be the responsibility of the passenger. EOT reserves the right to make adjustments to the itinerary as deemed desirable by EOT, and EOT reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. If a tour is canceled beyond the control of EOT, EOT will provide a refund or a future travel credit to be used two years from the date of issuance for the value of all funds paid by the passenger less nonrefundable travel supplier prepaid deposits, travel supplier change fees, nonrefundable travel protection premiums, and a \$150 administration fee.

FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged and space limitations on tour buses, wheelchairs and scooters cannot be accommodated. Those needing oxygen or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. Persons using C-pap machines requiring distilled water will need to inform us ahead of time, so we can work with local operators to prepare as it is not always available. EOT reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of EOT, incapable of group travel without causing undue demands upon the staff or other tour participants. Accessible rooms/cabins are limited and subject to confirmation after receiving the passenger's written request. If you have questions, please see eo.travel/fit-to-travel-statement or contact Educational Opportunities Tours Inc. for more details.

PASSPORT INFORMATION:

Passport information must be submitted to our office no later than 05/09/26. Failure to provide your passport information to our office by this date may result in change fees or denial of travel. Discrepancies in information may result in change fees, delays in receiving travel documents for your trip, or denial of travel. Any fees incurred due to discrepancies are the responsibility of the passenger.

PRICE INCREASES:

All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees.

AIRLINE ROUTES AND TICKETS:

In order to keep prices low, EOT does not guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. Once issued, airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded thereafter. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class on IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together on entire itinerary. If you choose to depart from a different city than your group or traveling companion, or deviate your flight and/or trip plans, and/or you are taking a pre or post tour, you may fly on a different scheduled flight(s) than the rest of your group. If you make your own air arrangements, you are responsible for booking all needed flights for your travel unless specified otherwise. Contact guest services for further details.

FLIGHT TIMES AND SEATING:

All flights are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. EOT is not responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If you are making your own flight arrangements to the departure city, we recommend you purchase a ticket that can be exchanged without large penalties. There is no advance seat selection for groups on most airlines. Early check-in is necessary to secure seats with travel companions and those with special needs. Due to security measures taken at airports, it is advisable to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure time. Seating is solely under the control of the airlines.

ADDITIONAL AIRLINE FEES:

You will likely incur additional airline checked baggage fees that are not included in the price of the tour. These fees vary by airline and are at the airline's discretion on each segment of the flight itinerary. Additionally, you may incur optional fees (food, excess baggage, overweight baggage, items of personal nature, etc.) as well. For more information, visit eo.travel/travel-info/airline-fees.

ON OWN DEVIATIONS:

On Own Deviations from the standard tour program must be submitted in writing and are subject to additional airline fees, if applicable. Transfers for passengers who deviate are not included.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While EOT will make every effort to ensure you will see all sites listed in this brochure, the availability of sites, order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. No changes to the itinerary are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the tour operator. Except as stated herein, no other person is authorized to cancel, modify or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour.

Due to airline schedules, some participants may receive one or two extra leisure days at a nominal per day charge and some extensions may not be available on all departure dates. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$125 per night; single rooms \$175 per night. Meals for extra nights are not included.

VALIDITY DATE:

This brochure is valid until 06/27/26. If validity date has passed, current brochures may be found at www.eo.travel. Registrations will still be accepted after the validity date.

RELEASE INFORMATION:

Payment of deposit indicates permission for EOT or its agents to record the registrant's participation and appearance on video tape, audio tape, film, photograph, or any other medium and to use the registrant's name, likeness, voice, comments, submitted documentation, written papers, and/or biographical material without restrictions or limitation for any advertising, marketing, publicity, educational or promotional purpose which EOT or its agents deem appropriate, unless the registrant or guardian otherwise notifies EOT in writing prior to departure.

Enrollment in, payment of deposit and/or acceptance of final documents, vouchers, or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the Passenger Agreement and Program Conditions of the brochure. Prices are based on tariffs in effect as of January 1 of the previous year and are subject to adjustment without notice in the event of any change or currency fluctuation.

Except where otherwise stated, EOT acts only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall EOT be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. **The passenger agrees that EOT assumes no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, theft, accident, delay, any lost or damaged luggage, or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or willful act or omission of any suppliers of service.**

EOT does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Without limiting the foregoing, the passenger agrees to release EOT and to hold EOT harmless for any liability, loss or expense arising from any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van, or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, Pandemic, strikes, or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns this brochure or your tour. Any and all litigation must be brought only in courts in Polk County, Florida to the exclusion of litigation anywhere else in the world. Educational Opportunities Tours is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST24130. CST2027682-40.

Travel Protection Plan - Premium Rates - For a full description of the plan, go to: www.tripmate.com/wpF427E

Trip Cost	Plan Cost	Trip Cost	Plan Cost	Trip Cost	Plan Cost
\$0 - \$1000	\$99	\$3501-\$4000	\$399	\$6501-\$7000	\$699
\$1001-\$1500	\$149	\$4001-\$4500	\$449	\$7001-\$8000	\$799
\$1501-\$2000	\$199	\$4501-\$5000	\$499	\$8001-\$9000	\$899
\$2001-\$2500	\$249	\$5001-\$5500	\$549	\$9001-\$10000	\$999
\$2501-\$3000	\$299	\$5501-\$6000	\$599		
\$3001-\$3500	\$349	\$6001-\$6500	\$649		

Schedule of Benefits	Maximum Benefit
Part A*	
Trip Cancellation	100% of the Trip Cost
Part B	
Trip Interruption	Up to 100% of the non-refundable Trip Cost
Missed Connection	\$500
Trip Delay	Up to \$150 Per Day, to a Maximum of \$1,500
Medical Expense / Emergency Evacuation	
Accident & Sickness Medical Expense	\$25,000
Medical Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains	\$50,000
24 Hour Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000
Baggage and Personal Effects	\$1,000
Baggage Delay	Up to \$200

Additional Cancellation Protection

When You purchase this Travel Protection Plan at or before the final payment due date for Your Trip, you also receive the Educational Opportunities Tours Non-Insurance Cancellation Waiver that allows you to cancel your Educational Opportunities Tours travel arrangements up to the day of departure for any reason (excludes no shows and those not permitted boarding). With this Educational Opportunities Tours Cancellation Waiver, your non-refundable land cancellation penalties will be reimbursed in cash or in travel vouchers (depending on your reason for cancellation). Certain travel programs are not eligible for this benefit, such as cruise and land programs listed and detailed on the Educational Opportunities website (www.eo.travel). **Plan costs must be paid in addition to initial or second deposit prior to the final payment for coverage to be in effect. Part A - Non-Insurance Cancellation Waiver is provided by Educational Opportunities Tours. Part B - Travel Protection Benefits are provided by United States Fire Insurance Company and serviced by Trip Mate. *In MN and NY, a different cancellation waiver is available. Available for purchase separately in NY.**

Conditions and Limitations

The Travel Protection Plan is only available for citizens or residents of the United States of America. This advertisement contains highlights of the plans developed by Trip Mate, a Generali Global Assistance & Insurance Services brand, which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company, Principal Office located in Morristown, New Jersey, under form series T7000 et al, T210 et al and TP-401 et al, and non-insurance Travel Assistance Services provided by Generali Global Assistance and FootprintID and a non-insurance Cancellation Fee Waiver provided by Educational Opportunities Tours, Inc (F427E Plan Only). The terms of insurance coverages in the plans may vary by jurisdiction and not all insurance coverages are available in all jurisdictions. Insurance coverages in these plans are subject to terms, limitations and exclusions including an exclusion for pre-existing medical conditions. In most states, your travel retailer is not a licensed insurance producer/agent, and is not qualified or authorized to answer technical questions about the terms, benefits, exclusions and conditions of the insurance offered or to evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. Your travel retailer may be compensated for the purchase of a plan and may provide general information about the plans offered, including a description of the coverage and price. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from your travel retailer. CA DOI toll free number is 800-927-4357. The cost of your plan is for the entire plan, which consists of both insurance and non-insurance components. Individuals looking to obtain additional information regarding the features and pricing of each travel plan component, please contact Trip Mate, a Generali Global Assistance & Insurance Services brand; P.O. Box 527, Hazelwood, MO 63042; 1-833-297-2255; assistancefees@tripmate.com. We are licensed in all states. While Trip Mate markets the travel insurance in these plans on behalf of USF, non-insurance components of the plans were added to the plans by Trip Mate, and Trip Mate does not receive compensation from USF for providing the non-insurance components of the plans.